

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 L-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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EUR:JAARMITAGE

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C:WTSHINN

S/S -FORTIZ

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R 211723Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HU, RQ

SUBJECT: VISIT OF PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY

REF: BUDAPEST 1026 (NOTAL); USUN 1208

1. DEPT SHARES VIEW OF USUN THAT HUNGARIAN INVITATION TO
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PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY DELEGATION MAY BE CUBAN DEVICE
TO GARNER EE SUPPORT FOR PR INDEPENDENCE CAUSE IN UN
COMMITTEE OF 24 AND OTHER UN BODIES. WE NOTE, INCIDENTALLY,
THAT ROMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY RECEIVED SAME GROUP ON APRIL

7 IN BUCHAREST (FBIS 10 APRIL 1975).

2. WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT ACTION POSTS SHOULD EXPRESS AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL USG CONCERN OVER THESE VISITS, DRAWING ON PARA 4 TO MAKE OUR POINT THAT WE REGARD PUERTO RICO'S STATUS AS INTERNAL US MATTER AND THAT OFFICIAL INVITATIONS SUCH AS THOSE EXTENDED TO SOCIALIST PARTY DELEGATION DO NOT, IN OUR VIEW, FALL WITHIN RANGE OF THOSE WE SANCTION.

3. INFO POSTS MIGHT SEEK OCCASION TO INFORM HOST GOVTS OF POINTS WE ARE MAKING IN BUCHAREST AND BUDAPEST, ESPECIALLY SINCE PR GROUP MAY TRAVEL TO OTHER EE COUNTRIES.

4. USG POSITION ON PUERTO RICO: IN 1952 THE PUERTO RICANS EXERCISED THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION BY ELECTING THE COMMONWEALTH STATUS OF FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE US. IN 1953, USG INFORMED UN THAT SELF-GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED IN PUERTO RICO, AND THAT THEREFORE PUERTO RICO WAS NO LONGER AN APPROPRIATE AREA FOR UN CONSIDERATION OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES. THE US DECISION WAS ENDORSED BY THE GA IN 1953 AND BY REJECTING A PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE PUERTO RICO ON ITS AGENDA, THE GA IN 1971 RE-AFFIRMED ITS PREVIOUS DECISION THAT PUERTO RICO IS SELF-GOVERNING.

THE CUBANS HAVE CONTINUED TO INSIST THAT PUERTO RICO IS NOT SELF-GOVERNING, AND SINCE CUBA IS NOW A MEMBER OF COMMITTEE OF 24 (REPLACING VENEZUELA), WE CAN ANTICIPATE GREATER CUBAN ACTIVITY TO MAKE PUERTO RICO AN AGENDA ITEM. USG POSITION CONTINUES TO HOLD THAT: INDEPENDENCE IS ONLY ONE AVENUE OF SELF-DETERMINATION; PUERTO RICO'S SELF-GOVERNING STATUS HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY RECOGNIZED BY THE UNGA; IT IS CLEAR FROM THE GENERAL ELECTIONS IN 1956, 60, 64, 68 AND 72, PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO HAVE FREELY CHOSEN TO RETAIN THEIR PRESENT RELATIONSHIP WITH US; GIVEN PUERTO RICO'S RECOGNIZED SELF-GOVERNING STATUS, PUERTO RICO DOES NOT COME UNDER THE PURVIEW OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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COLONIALISM. AT PRESENT THERE ARE TWO MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES IN PUERTO RICO. IN 1972 ELECTIONS THE POPULAR DEMOCRATS (PRO-COMMONWEALTH) RECEIVED 51.2 PER CENT OF THE VOTES, NEW PROGRESSIVES (PRO-STATEHOOD) 44 PER CENT. US IS CONFIDENT THAT THIS PRESENT RELATIONSHIP IS IN FULL ACCORD WITH THE DESIRES OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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